THE RINGING WORLD

No. 288. Vol. XI. FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22nd, 1916. [Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.] Price 1d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON
CROYDON, Surrey.
BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.

St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton.
Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK.

A WISE STEP.

Suggestions have often been made as to the filling up of the depleted ranks of ringers in the many towers that have suffered by the drain of war. There are numerous towers where local action has been taken, and ladies have readily come forward to help, while in others the men left behind have enlisted the services of youths below the military age. It has been left, however, to the Salisbury Guild to take an official step to bring before the clergy the need of filling up the gaps in the belfry personnel. As will be seen by the circular letter which we reproduce in another column, the Chairman of the Marlborough Branch, who is also Rural Dean of Marlborough, has made a direct appeal to the incumbents of all churches in his district with rings of bells to help in preserving our art by enlisting the services of youths of 15 to 17 years.

A suggestion, coming from such an influential quarter, is bound to have some weight, and other associations might well follow the example set by getting, in their respective districts, a clergyman of position and influence, who is interested in the work, to take similar action to the Rural Dean of Marlborough. In these days we pride ourselves upon the fact that we have with us in the work of our associations the interest and goodwill of the clergy, and for that reason there is likely to be very little difficulty in obtaining the help of those whose appeal would carry weight. This matter is one in which the ringing associations may well and usefully request the assistance of the clergy who occupy positions of authority.

There can be no question that if the prosperity of ringing in the immediate future is to be secured, no stone must be left unturned to keep the individual companies up to strength, for few bands will be able to take up their work after the war at the place where they laid it down. Many men, unhappily, will not return; others have been so maimed that for them the pursuit of bell ringing will be out of the question; others again will be drawn away to the colonies by the desire for the wider life, the greater freedom, and, perhaps, the fuller opportunities which will be presented to them if all the after-war schemes, which are talked about, develop and mature. Thus we cannot start where we left off in August, 1914, but any action which is likely to assist in building up our organisation as a whole, and, as the Rural Deal of Marlborough puts it, in preserving a beautiful and uplifting art, is worth serious consideration. "There is grave reason to fear," he says, "that unless steps are immediately taken there will be a set-back which it would take a generation to recover." The Marlborough Branch of the Salisbury Guild has certainly been wise in enlisting the sympathies of the Rural Dean in this matter, and other organisations might with advantage take a leaf out of the Salisbury Guild's book.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.

SMETHWICK, BIRMINGHAM

OPINION OF OUR MODERN WORK.

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,
CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

Messrs. C. CARR, LTD.
Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to Inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your Contract,—we may be able to assist you.

BELLS
FOR CHURCHES,
SINGLY,
OR IN PEALS.

CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.

PEALS AUGMENTED,
CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

FRAMES
IN BEST SEASONED OAK,
STEEL OR IRON.

Chiming Machines.

Best Workmanship and Satisfaction Guaranteed

FITTINGS
OF ALL KINDS.

ARTISTIC WROUGHT IRON BRACKETS.

MALLEABLE IRON BRACKETS.
BEST BELL ROPES.
REPAIRS AND REHANGING IN ALL BRANCHES.

BELLHANGERS sent to inspect and report on Bells and Towers.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

ESTABLISHED 1760.

JOHN NICOLL,

Church Bell Rope and Clock Rope Manufacturer,

60, QUEEN'S ROAD, PECKHAM, LONDON, S.E.

(Two minutes from Queen's Road Station, L.B. & S.C. Railway).

Late 155, Keeton's Road, Bermondsey.

Maker to St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Imperial Institute, Canterbury, Edinburgh, St. Alban's, Lincoln, Durham, Peterborough, Melbourne (Australia), Rochester, Dublin, St. Patrick's, Manchester and Worcester Cathedrals etc., etc.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

UCKFIELD, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, September 13th, 1916, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

FREDERICK WREN	*Treble*	HARRY STALHAM	5
HENRY R. BUTCHER	2	JAMES A. HART	6
JOHN W. JONES	3	ROBERT J. DAWE	7
GEORGE ADES	4	GEORGE RICHARDSON ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by J. A. HART.

The peal was arranged for Mr. Jones, of Newport, Mon., who was elected a member of the Association previous to starting.

BRIERLY HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, September 16, 1916, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt.

CHARLES E. PERKINS	*Treble*	ARTHUR E. WHATMORE ...	5
GEORGE POPNELL	2	WILLIAM POTTER	6
RALPH MOORS	3	JOHN BASS	7
WILLIAM RANFORD ...	4	WILLIAM SHORT	*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM SHORT.

Rung for the Harvest Festival.

SIX BELL PEAL.

MINSTERWORTH, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
On Saturday, September 9, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

With ten different callings.

SAMUEL MEADOWS ...	*Treble*	THOMAS LEACH	4
THOMAS BALDWYN	2	SYDNEY BOYCE	5
PHILIP POCKETTS	3	JOSEPH W. GEENS ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by THOMAS BALDWYN.

HANDBELL PEALS.

LONDON.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thursday, September 14, 1916, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,
IN THE BELFRY OF ST. LEONARD'S CHURCH, SHOREDITCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5017 CHANGES;

MRS. F. I. HAIRS	1—2	GEORGE R. PYE	5—6
WILLIAM PYE	3—4	JAMES HUNT	7—8
WILLIAM SHEPHERD	9—10		

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF and
Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.
Umpire: C. T. COLES.

Rung in honour of the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. F. Bennett, of Brighton, parents of the ringer of 1—2.

BIRMINGHAM.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Thursday, September 14, 1916, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,
IN THE BELFRY OF THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5017 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 size, in B flat.

FRANK W. PERRENS... ...	1—2	JAMES E. GROVES ...	7—8
MISS EDITH K. PARKER...	3—4	GEORGE F. SWANN ...	9—10
ALBERT WALKER	5—6	JAMES GEORGE ...	11—12

Composed by FRANK W. PERRENS, and
Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.
Referee: MR. G. YENDALL.

ERDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, September 16, 1916, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE RESIDENCE OF WILLIAM CHESHIRE, ESQ.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor, 17 size in B flat.

FRANK W. PERRENS ...	1—2	JAMES E. GROVES	7—8
MISS EDITH K. PARKER	3—4	GEORGE F. SWANN ...	9—10
ALBERT WALKER	5—6	JAMES GEORGE	11—12

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE F. SWANN.

Referee: MR. BENJAMIN GOUGH. Rung in the presence of about 30 witnesses.

Reference to this peal will appear next week.

LONDON.
THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, September 16, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
IN THE TOWER OF ST. LEONARD'S CHURCH, SHOREDITCH,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

JAMES HUNT	1—2	FRANK SMITH...	5—6
JOHN D. MATTHEWS	3—4	WILLIAM T. POWELL ...	7—8

WILLIAM J. NUDDS ... ... 9—10

Composed by H. J. TUCKER, and
Conducted by JOHN D. MATTHEWS.
Umpires: H. T. SCARLETT and H. C. STUBBS.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. Frank Bennett (late secretary of the Society) and Mrs. Bennett, of Brighton, for their silver wedding, which fell on the preceding day; also to mark the second anniversary of the marriage of Mr. H. J. Bradley (the present secretary) and Mrs. Bradley, which occurred on the 12th.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following are serving in H.M. Forces:—
J. R. Bartram, Melton Mowbray, A.S.C., Motor Transport.
Pte J. Beazely, of St. Andrew's Gargrave, Duke of Wellington's Light Infantry.
Pte W. Underwood, of St. Mary's, Cavendish, Suffolk, Army Veterinary Corps, now in France.
Pte J. Grindrod, of Whitworth, 74th Training Battalion.
Pte A. E. Parsons, of Staveley, Notts and Derby Regt.
Pte Charles William Cook, of Long Stanton, 25th Middlesex Regt.
Pte H. W. Watts, of Stansted, Essex, 8th Essex Cyclist Regt.
Pte H. Wolstencroft, of St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, 12th R.F.W.

From Luton Parish Church:—
Pte C. Wing, Royal Flying Corps.
Pte F. Hunt, 59th Middlesex Regt.
Pte W. Payne, Queen's R.W. Surrey Regt.

From St. James', Stanstead:—
Pte Horatio Pask, King's Royal Rifles.
Pte John Percy Garwood, East Cambs Regt.

EARLSHEATON RINGER'S BEREAVEMENT.

A touch of 800 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung at All Saints' Church, Dewsbury, for evening service on Sunday week by the Earlsheaton Society, the bells being deeply muffled in memory of the late Mrs. Walter Idle, whose death took place on the 4th inst., and who was interred at Dewsbury Cemetery on Sept. 6th. Mrs. Idle took a great interest in ringing, her husband, Mr. Walter Idle, having been a member of the Dewsbury handbell ringers for upwards of 25 years, and a member of the Dewsbury Society of Change Ringers up to a few years ago, when he joined the Earlsheaton Society. The deceased lady always took a great interest in the outings of the ringers, and it was always her wish, when the ringers were going on these trips that the wives should go also, and many a pleasant outing has been the result of her suggestions. The Earlsheaton Society deeply regret the loss their member has sustained, and tender their deepest sympathy to him in his sad bereavemnt. The touch was rung by: A. Goodall 1, John W. Dews 2, William Arnley 3, Hemingway Dransfield 4, J. Garforth 5, H. Hardy (composer and conductor) 6, Walter Byram 7, J. Hewitt 8. The Earlsheaton Society wish to thank the Vicar and churchwardens of Dewsbury Parish Church and the local company for the loan of the bells, the Earlsheaton bells at present being under repair.

KING'S CLIFFE TENOR.

Donations towards the fund for recasting King's Cliffe tenor should be sent to the Rev. H. A. Orlebar, King's Cliff Rectory, near Peterborough.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CENTRAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATION.

At the annual business meeting of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, held at the Chapter House, Oxford, there was a good representative gathering, about 25 members attending, and the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis taking the chair.

The Master (the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn), who is serving as Chaplain in H.M. Forces in France, was re-elected with acclamation. The hon. treasurer (the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis) and the secretary (Mr. A. E. Reeves) were also re-elected. The committee was re-appointed, Messrs. Sear and Webb being elected to fill the two vacancies.

The following resolution was brought forward by Mr. Cullum, and seconded by Mr. R. T. Hibbert, "that the representation on the Central Council be considered." An interesting discussion followed, in which the Rev. G. F. Coleridge (representative of the Oxford Guild on the Council) explained the very valuable work that the Central Council had done. One thing he thought the Guild might do with advantage, and that was to send a suggestion to the Central Council that points for peals should be abolished.—It was decided that the Central Council representation should be maintained.

Under the heading of "Any other business," a resolution was proposed by Mr. Cullum, and seconded by Mr. Hibbert "that the secretary be instructed to inform all branch secretaries that a levy of 6d. per member per annum be made to a fund called 'Serving Members' Subscriptions Fund,' the same to be continued until the deficiency caused be paid."

A long discussion followed, during which the chairman was obliged to leave, Mr. J. Evans being voted to take his place. Finally an amendment was passed as follows: "That all branch secretaries be asked to see that there be no deficiencies in subscriptions through members serving in H.M. Forces, and that all members be asked to subscribe 6d. annually to meet such deficiencies."

This closed the meeting.

No ringing took place, but the members were invited to take tea at the hon. treasurer's expense, about a dozen availing themselves of his generosity.

The Secretary of the Guild, Mr. A. E. Reeves, has obtained a commission in H.M. Forces, and is now Second-lieutenant in No. 256 Protection company, at Poundbury Camp, Dorchester. His work as secretary of the Guild will go on as usual, and all communications should be addressed to Mrs. Reeves, 5, Fatherson Road, Reading.

THE GRUMBLERS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I have read with considerable interest the letter by "A.J.P.," and I must say that I heartily agree with him, although I am sorry that he did not give some useful suggestions. I am only a young man, and consequently, only a young ringer, so am not in a position to give much advice. There are two or three towers that I know of in the Metropolitan area where the ringers are practically all grumblers, and the steeplekeepers without tact and common-sense. So much so, that visitors are very chary of becoming "Interlopers." One tower in particular is supposed to have its annual business meeting. I am informed that they have not had such a meeting for years, and don't seem likely to, while under the regime of the present steeplekeeper. Well then, why should several men be influenced by one? That is the point. Has not one of them the courage necessary to inform the clergy or churchwardens? By-the-way, where do they come in? What I have found is this. Too many so-called ringers are not ringers at all. They may have an "appetite" for ringing, or for "£ s. d."; but when it comes to order and decorum, and conducting the ringing arrangements on business lines, where are they? Outside, grumbling about the striking or the weather, or some more trivial matter. This is all very regrettable, and to one like myself very disheartening, so I hope some of my fellow readers of "The Ringing World" more experienced than myself will be kind enough to give us a receipt for a certain and lasting cure.—Yours, etc., E. G. B.

RINGING AT SAFFRON WALDEN.

A very enjoyable day's ringing took place at Saffron Walden on a recent Sunday, when Lance-Corpl. A. Wakley, of the 6th North Staffs Regiment, and Pte F. J. Pitstow, A.O.C., were in the town on leave. The service touches included the following: For morning service, 382 Stedman Cinques: F. Pitstow (conductor) 1, Lance-Corpl. A. Wakley 2, Pte F. J. Pitstow 3, A. F. James 4, R. Strong 5, C. Freeman 6, A. E. Pitstow 7, E. A. Pitstow 8, G. Sparrow 9, A. Evenett 10, F. Dench 11, W. Parish 12; and two short courses in the same method. For evening service a different 382 in the same method, conducted by F. Pitstow, with the same band, except that L. Pitstow took part, and thus rang his first touch of Stedman Cinques at the first attempt. Two courses were also rung in which J. F. Penning took part. Among the handbell ringing during the day were the following touches: 395 Grandsire Caters: F. J. Pitstow 1—2, A. E. Pitstow 3—4, F. Pitstow 5—6, A. Wakley 7—8, F. Dench 9—10; 504 Grandsire Triples, with A. F. James 7—8, this being his longest touch "in hand," and three courses of Stedman Triples: F. J. Pitstow 1—2, A. E. Pitstow 3—4, F. Pitstow 5—6, F. Dench 7—8.

JOHN GARTHON.

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

I.

About eighteen months ago there occurred an anniversary that all ringers ought to have kept. It was the bi-centenary of the first peal that ever was rung, of the day when the Art of Ringing came of age. There will come again no such anniversary in our time. In eighteen months hence you may celebrate, and you should celebrate the bi-centenary of the first peal of Grandsire Triples, but that was not an event like the other. On May 2nd, 1715, ringing, which had already been some centuries in the making, came finally into its own, and the art as we know it was fixed in all its essentials. Yet the day passed almost without notice. There was indeed mention made of it in "The Ringing World," but no peals were rung, no dinner was eaten to celebrate it. We were at war, and had other and more immediate things to do and think of.

Yet it is well we should remember the rock whence we were hewn and the pit where we were digged, and when we praise famous men and the fathers that begat us we must in no wise forget John Garthon and his band. Not that he was the first of ringers. There were greater than he even before his time; Fabian Stedman, for instance, and without Stedman there could hardly have been Garthon. And Stedman did not consider himself a pioneer, he was the inheritor of many ringers that had gone before. We know nothing about them; they are not even names to us. We know, I think, the name of only one of these old ringers, and he was by far the greatest man that ever belonged to the Exercise—John Bunyan. But Bunyan, though he rang at Elstow, was never quite one of us. In his after life, when he used to look back with that curious mixture of satisfaction and horror with which such men regard the time before they were "saved," he especially marked among his youthful depravities, Sabbath breaking and swearing, and bell ringing. I do not suppose the swearing was any worse than many a respectable Church-going young lady would nowadays consider "smart," and the Sabbath breaking was nothing worse than games on the village green. But Bunyan was marked out for different things, and if ever he was really a ringer he left it all behind him. I do not recall from memory a single allusion to bells in the "Pilgrim's Progress," though there might well have been many. You remember the beautiful passage that tells of the death of Mr. Valiant-for-Truth, which ends, "And all the Trompitts on the other side sounded for him." If Mr. Valiant-for-Truth had been a ringer I do not think he would have thought the worse of his welcome if all the bells on the other side had rung out for him.

I do not think, apart from the fact that he was a genius and a puritan saint, that Bunyan was quite the stuff that the ideal ringer is made of. There are certain human and social qualities, not brilliant, but eminently sane, that a ringer should have, qualities that shine more in the meeting room than in the tower. And here, perhaps, is the greatest problem that the invasion of lady ringers causes. For unless a ringer smokes a pipe and drinks beer he cannot by the nature of things be a complete ringer, whereas a woman who does smoke a pipe and drink beer is—but I am wandering from my point.

There was one man much further back than Bunyan, who really was a member of the Exercise, truly one of us. I mean the immortal Peter Bullcalf. Shakespeare said he lived about 1403, but that's all rubbish. He was living in Warwickshire anywhere round about 1600. Not, I think, a very proficient ringer—the tenor behind to Doubles was about his mark. Also when they brought in conscription he was not very keen about soldiering and appealed on "medical grounds."

> Bullcalf: O Lord! good my lord captain,—
> Falstaff What! dost thou roar before thou art prick't?
> Bullcalf: O Lord! Sir, I am a diseased man.
> Falstaff: What disease hast thou?
> Bullcalf: A whoreson cold, sir; a cough, sir; which I caught with ringing in the King's affairs upon his Coronation day, Sir.
> Falstaff: Come, thou shall go to the wars in a gown; we will have away thy cold; and I will take such order that thy friends shall ring for thee.

Peter did not go to the wars. When the tribunal had retired he squared the corporal. "Good Master Corporal Bardolph, stand my friend, and here's four Harry ten shillings in French crowns for you. In very truth, sir, I had lief be hanged, sir, as go; and yet for mine own part I do not care; but rather because I am unwilling; and, for mine own part, have a desire to stay with my friends; else, sir, I did not care, for my own part, so much.

Bardolph: Go to; stand aside.

There were a lot of Peter Bullcalfs about and among them and better men the art of ringing gradually developed. It took over a hundred years at least, and be it noted it was not the invention of one man or one band, it grew of itself. Then, at last, when John Garthon called the first peal of Triples it was done with its adolescence and was full grown. If you turn to the College Youths' peal book you will find on the first page an account of a peal of Grandsire Triples rung in 1689, composed and conducted by Benjamin Annable; but that is a clumsy forgery. Garthon's claim cannot seriously be challenged. I wish I knew something about him, but I do not. I cannot even conjure up in my mind what manner of man he might be. I think I can sketch Fabian Stedman not very far from the life, and Benjamin Annable. But not Holt and still less Garthon. I know he lived in Saint Gregory's parish, at Norwich, and was buried in the churchyard. You may if you have the time and the inclination thereunto no doubt find, by diligent searching, the record of his burial in the register, but you will not find his grave. The churchyard in there still, a tiny bit of ground hemmed in among the houses, much in the same state as it was two hundred years ago. But seven centuries of parishioners have been buried in that little plot; dead body heaped on dead body, till the churchyard is six feet above the level of the surrounding ground. No wonder the grass grows rank among the mouldy tomb stones.

There are six bells in the church tower, all since Garthon's time, in a bad state of repair, and now I should imagine quite unringable. Previously there were five, all old bells, and one of them, unless the contemporary newspaper lied, one of the oldest dated bells in England, or, for that matter, anywhere. It is quite possible it was so. Norwich is full of old bells.

Of course it was at Saint Peter Mancroft on the old ring of eight that Garthon's peal was rung. The board that records it is there still, or rather it was there a few years since. What is there now is some of the old wood and a good deal of fresh paint. The intention was excellent, but the hand of the restorer was laid very heavily on two of the three most valuable boards in the tower, and the mischief is irreparable. The third is in very fair condition, and so far unrestored. It may be that when it, too, must go into hospital better counsel will prevail.

Garthon's second triumph was to compose the first true peal of Grandsire Triples, which was rung in 1718. He did not ring himself, and it may be that, as there is no conductor mentioned, he sat in the tower and called the peal from manuscript. The wording of the board and the figures of the peal and the way they were preserved, are they not written in the Book of Snowdon?

And the Grandsire Triples is true? Which raises the question, was the earlier and more important peal also true? You can argue which way you like. You can say the figures of one have survived, the others are lost, which shows that people kept one because it was true, and destroyed the other because it was afterwards found to be false, as "The Clavis" says was done in the case of the early peals of Treble Bob; or you can say that, if Garthon was man enough to compose a true peal of Grandsire Triples, he was quite man enough for the much lesser job of composing a peal of Bob Triples.

For my part I plump for the truth of the peal. I think we can be very nearly sure not only that it was not false, but also what manner of peal it was. You will remember that Vicars' peal of Grandsire is Garthon's peal improved. Well, Annable's peal of Bob Triples is probably Garthon's peal improved. I do not mean that either Vicars or Annable necessarily saw Garthon's figures, though they may have done so. I mean that Garthon undoubtedly worked on the same lines as Annable, though probably not (since he was the earlier) with such complete success.

(To be continued).

DEATH OF MR. R. C. HAMMOND.

A WELL-KNOWN ST. ALBANS RINGER.

We regret to record the somewhat sudden death of Mr. Richard Eden Hammond, of St. Albans, which occurred in the early morning of Wednesday, September 13th. On Sunday, Sept. 3rd, he assisted in ringing for evening service at the Cathedral, and no one present thought that would be the last pull with their old friend "Dick." It appears that he was caught in a storm of rain, from the effects of which he developed a chill, followed by pleurisy and pneumonia, and was called "home" in a few days. He had been a member of the Cathedral Society of Change Ringers for about 25 years, and acted for many years, up to the time of his death, as treasurer. He was also a member of the Hertfordshire Association, and a most regular attendant at the annual meeting, where his voice was always heard. His record of peals was small, his business calls (that of a dairyman-farmer) precluding him from enjoying that pleasure. But he had rung a peal of Stedman Triples and several peals of Grandsire. He was a strenuous worker in his business, and one admired the persistency with which he attended at the Cathedral to ring for evening service, for with a church adjoining his farm, with a peal of six, there was a temptation to avoid the "climb" to the Cathedral belfry. But "Dick" did his part from the highest of motives, and his jovial smile and humorous banter, which emanated from an inborn kindliness of heart, will be much missed by his colleagues.

The funeral took place at St. Albans Cemetery on Friday last, the first portion of the service being held at the Abbey, conducted by the Rev. E. H. Evans (curate). The committal service was performed by the Rev. Canon Grimston, in whose parish Mr. Hammond resided. There was a large gathering of friends at the service, including representatives of various bodies. The Cathedral Society (who sent a wreath) was represented by Mr. H. Arnold, and the Hertford County Association by Mr. G. W. Cartmel, the hon. secretary. Many other ringing friends would have been present had the sad event been known to them. In the evening touches of Stedman Triples were rung upon the Abbey bells, half-muffled, but owing to lighting restrictions the ringing had to be somewhat curtailed

IN BUCKS AND BERKS.

OXFORD GUILD DOINGS.

" Then ring away, pull away, Ring my boys, Ring,
As this long peal was rung, we'll merrily sing."

In 1837. Tom Tolliday's 12,000 at Fulham.

My report for the month of August being due, some notes of our doings are here given. It will be seen by the miscellaneous column that some of the Berks boys went into Middlesex, whilst the Bucks boys went down Oxford way, and since the notices of the branch meetings were published I ought to send the results. The small paragraph that was inserted not only saved time and postage in correspondence, but it also brought new faces to join us in our practices, men in uniform, who would never have found the opportunity had it not been for " The Ringing World." The power of the Press has never been so well vindicated as it has during the second year of this great European War, more especially with reference to charitable objects and war organisations. It is, therefore, to be hoped that the Exercise at large will endeavour to do more in the future to extend the score of the " ringers' weekly "—both in circulation and contents—than has hitherto been its reward, and everyone can help a little. Since I gazed with rapture upon the first six-score (in cold print), which I took part in, four similar bell ringing publications have gone under, and their editors, alas! have been placed upon the list of " bygones " in ringing history; yet, still we ringers are honoured by an enthusiastic disciple taking upon himself the same risky and unthankful task.

August 1st.—A field service postcard arrived from " somewhere," signed G. F. Williams, and his many friends in the Berks and Bucks branch will be glad to know that he is quite well. I was recently informed by one of the Farnham ringers, home on leave, that he came across several men who had been to St. Omer (West front), and had rung the bells, a peal of eight. If it could be arranged there are enough members of the Oxford Guild in France to give the natives a touch of English changes.

GOOD PRACTICES.

August 5th.—Slough. This Saturday meeting produced a band of eight, a full muster not being expected, as some had accepted invitations to tea at Hillingdon with the Middlesex Association. We left off ringing on the request of a near resident, owing to the serious illness of a lady. I may mention that Slough tower became affiliated to the West Middlesex Association about a year after it was founded in 1874, by the late Rev. C. T. Mayo, and we still have left a dozen Guild members in this branch who were original members of that early society.

The weekly practices at Fulmer and Stoke, on Wednesdays and Thursdays, have been well maintained, being patronised by the ladies mostly. They nearly caught a fox at Stoke on the 17th, but managed a team of their own sex at Fulmer on the 7th of this month. Those taking a rope were the Misses Cooper (2), the Misses Bateman (2), Miss Swabey, Miss Gudgin and Miss Wear, with progress in Doubles and Minor. I believe last Easter may be remembered as the first occasion that a ladies' band has rung together upon six bells in Bucks.

August 12th.—Burnham. Fourteen members were present; the standard methods (old style) were rung, and good practice made, a heavy storm about 5 p.m. preventing several coming.

August 19th.—Beaconsfield. The Vicar, the Rev. A. S. Commeline, kindly received the visitors in the belfry at the conclusion of evensong, the following 23 ringers putting in an appearance, and a good all-round practice followed till 8 p.m. in Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob and Double Norwich Major: Mr. W. Welling and his three pupils, Messrs. Cutts, Burden and Tyndall, from Old Windsor; Messrs. J. J. Parker, Henley and Fussell, Farnham Royal; Messrs. Evans, senr. and junr., of Hughendon; Mr. J. Barnes, Great Missenden; Mr. A. Elburn, and Air-Mechanic W. Edwards, R.F.C., of Amersham, the latter being home on leave; Messrs. J. Blackmore, H. Wingrove and Pte C. C. Mayne (Army Reserve), home on short leave, of Beaconsfield; Messrs. A. J. Hoing and W. Horne, of High Wycombe; Messrs. Hooper, Smith and Jones, of Slough; Staff-Signaller A. E. Owen, who with his brother, essayed ringing at Fulham, now on short leave at Knotty Green with his wife and son; and Sapper S. G. White, of Wickhambreaux (Kent R.E.), now stationed at Maidenhead.

August 26th.—Farnham Royal. A variety of methods and a variety of striking resulted from this gathering. It was a fairly fine evening, and the evolutions of a couple of aeroplanes over the church aided our strong muster of 23. Perhaps these flying men were practising observation of sounds, perhaps taking lead ends. Our local foreman was the only one without his cycle, and twenty-four machines were stacked round the tower, a grand opportunity for the " snatcher " to take his pick of a stock valued, at a low average, at quite £250—practical evidence of the fascination of the art by the owners of these machines who came from ten parishes. The same methods as the previous week were practised, with the addition of " rounds "—the most intricate of all, if we recall our own early ventures with the salient sally. Burnham, Mr. G. Allder; Reading, Mr. C. H. Pullen; Slough, Messrs. G. Bedford, Smith, Jones, Hooper and Leader; Fulmer, G. Gutteridge; Beaconsfield, J. Blackmore; Old Windsor, Messrs. Walling, Cutts, Burden; Datchet, J. H. Cropley; Farnham Royal, Messrs. Basden, Parker, Henley, Fussell; Halton Camp, near Tring, Corpl. Lawrence (Northampton Regt.), who cycled over on " spec," after reading his ringing paper; and the Misses Bateman, Gudgin, Fuller and Swabey, the latter home from holidays at Sunbury, where she had a successful pull on the church bells, but nearly met with a drowning disaster during a pull on the river.

The conductors were Messrs. Hooper, Welling and Parker.

A SUGGESTION FOR PONDOLAND.

Sept. 2nd.—Slough. Another excellent muster, and good use made of the peal of bells while the daylight remained. Proceedings began with a 504 Stedman Triples, the 7th man's first as conductor in the method by Messrs. Smith, Flaxman, Parker, Welling, Jones, Henley, Hooper and Cropley. The Misses Gudgin, Bateman and Cooper were present, the two latter taking part in Grandsire Triples. Kent Treble Bob Major was also rung, and the following ringers took a share in the various methods brought home: Messrs. A. Leader, G. Leader, Allder, Cutts, Burden, Beeby, G. Bedford, Smith and T. S. Goodchild, of Maidenhead.

Sept. 9th.—Burnham.—Double Norwich, Stedman, Grandsire and Treble Bob were rung by twenty members, who attended in good time, and the bells were ceased well before the regulation hour. It seemed strange to us to leave the belfry before darkness set it, but knocking off at eight o'clock gave us another hour to discuss the next month's programme, to hear news about old members serving at the front, and to look round at those who will shortly be gathered in by the khaki octopus before the year is out. We were introduced to a new landlord at the Bells, and here I made up my register of attendances: Messrs. Welling, Cutts, Burden, Horne, Blackmore, Wingrove, Elburn, J. Barnes (Missenden), Flaxman, Jones, Smith, Hooper, Gutteridge, Parker, J. Brant (Winkfield), Henley, Fussell, Goodchild, and Miss Gudgin. Interest was evinced in the Rev. A. P. F. Erskine's appeal for a church bell for Pondoland, he being an old member of the Guild. As his stay here is limited may I intrude on your space to offer him a " suggestion " which diversity of opinion and much correspondence would defeat, by the time he left England: That a deep-noted hemispherical bell be cast with the inscription: " To the Glory of God. From the ringers of England to the Natives of Pondoland, Christmas, 1916."

Likoma Cathedral, Central Africa, possesses a set of eight such bells—tenor 2¾ cwt.—that are reputed to answer their purpose exceedingly well, being also most economical. As to the cost, this would be well covered by a grant of one pound from each of our Diocesan Guilds and County Associations raised by a " whip round " amongst the respective members. I feel sure I may safely guarantee a half-sovereign from the members (by what I know of them) of this branch for a start.

There is just one more matter I would like to be allowed to mention. The Editor was gracious enough to praise the work of the " organiser " of the branch meetings. Although a certain amount of work has been necessary, the excellent combined attendances put in by all the members of the East Berks and South Bucks branch is due mostly to a scheme put into operation in 1913 by Messrs. Martin and Parker. Our district was divided into four areas, with a central tower and a specified conductor, who, with volunteer bands, had to visit every other tower in his immediate neighbourhood during the year for combined work with the local ringers of the parishes visited. Hughendon, Mr. Evans; Beaconsfield, Mr. Buckland; Farnham Royal, Mr. Parker; Burnham, Mr. Martin. Although excellent work was done and good progress made on new ground and in new methods, nothing ever appeared in the ringing Press beyond the peal or touch. I have mentioned it now as a hint to those Associations in a difficulty with " unattached " belfries. In this connection a word of praise is due to our North Bucks neighbours for similar work and perseverance in their district.

W. H. F.

BOYS' HANDBELL PEAL 100 YEARS AGO.

The following paragraph appeared in the " Sussex Weekly Advertiser," published in August, 1816: " On Wednesday evening a party of lads, at Cuckfield, rung 5040 Grandsire Triples, on the handbells in two hours and a half, beating the ringers of the church bells, who commenced the task about the same time. The ages of the boys were as follows, viz.: 1, Francis Leny, 15; 2, S. Picknell, 14; 3, Henry Bennett, 16; 4, Fred Parkhurst, 14; the bobs were called by S. Picknell." If these youths really rang a double-handed peal of Grandsire Triples it was an extremely meritorious performance for those days, though it was not surprising that they beat the church bell ringers in point of time. It is a pity some further details about the peal have not been preserved.

BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.—On August 17th, at the Parish Church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: F. Stanton 1, H. Morris 2, W. Sear 3, T. Best 4, F. Sear 5, H. Sear (conductor) 6. First 720 of Kent on the bells.

MEARS & STAINBANK,

Foundry Established A.D. 1570.

Bellfounders & Bellhangers,

32 & 34, Whitechapel Road, LONDON, E.

Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

For Rehanging, Retuning and Recasting.

Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

PRESENTATION TO WIRRAL BRANCH PRESIDENT.

A most successful meeting of the Wirral Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild was held at Birkenhead Parish Church (St. Mary's), on Sept. 9th last to bid farewell to the Rev. G. D. Oakley, the President of the Branch, who was leaving Birkenhead for Jesmond, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Members were present from Bebington, Bidston, Bromborough, Heswall, Liscard, Oxton, Wallasey and Woodchurch, as well as several unattached members. Service was held in the church, and the Rev. G. D. Oakley gave an address. An excellent tea was afterwards served in the school by ladies of the parish.

After the business portion of the meeting was over, Mr. Mann, on behalf of the branch, asked the President to accept a silver inkstand in the shape of a bell, suitably inscribed, as a small token of remembrance and respect on his leaving Birkenhead.

The Vicar, in accepting the gift, said that it would remind him of the happy associations connected with it and the Guild. There were no bells at Jesmond, but if the ringers liked to pay him a visit there he would entertain them royalty and find a peal of bells in the neighbourhood for them.

Mr. H. Ludkin, Ringing Master of the Branch, referred to what Mr. Oakley had done for ringing generally, and Mr. H. Brocklebank, hon. secretary, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, for the service and the address, and the refreshments provided, and also to the ladies for their kindness. — Mr. J. Dillon seconded the proposition, which was carried unanimously.—Mr. Oakley, in reply, gave credit to the ladies for the arrangements.—The Rev. Mr. Gore (curate), Mr. Edwards (Vicar's warden) and Mr. Clark (people's warden) also addressed the meeting, which closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

Ringing was kept up during the evening, the methods rung being Stedman and Grandsire Doubles, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Minor and Plain Bob Minor.

The present was supplied by Mr. J. Comber, of Woking.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT MEETING.

The quarterly meeting of the Southern District of the Yorkshire Association was held on Saturday week at Wortley. About 20 members attended, representing Sheffield (Cathedral and All Saints'), Rotherham (Parish Church), Doncaster, Beighton, Bolsterstone, Chesterfield, Barnsley, Ecclesfield, etc. Touches of Grandsire, Stedman, Plain and Treble Bob were brought round. The visitors much enjoyed the splendid tea, for which arrangements had been ably carried out by Mr. W. A. Wooler, of the local company.

A short business meeting was afterwards held, the chair being taken by Mr. F. Willey, of Sheffield, in the absence of the vice-president (Mr. T. R. Hensher).—Mr. J. T. Rew, of Sheffield, sent an apology for being unable to attend, but sent his best wishes for a successful meeting.

Three new members were elected, and the next meeting was fixed for Saturday, December 16th, Barnsley being suggested as the place of visit, with Ecclesfield as a reserve.

A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar (the Rev. T. L. Bradshaw) and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and the local company for carrying out all arrangements. Mrs. W. Stubley was also warmly thanked for assisting with tea. — Mr. F. Willey was thanked for presiding, and suitably responded.

A VISIT TO TROWBRIDGE.

Two ringers from Ealing, who are members of the Salisbury Guild, and whose native county is Wiltshire, visited Trowbridge at the invitation of Mr. Sam Hector, of Prospect Lodge, on a recent day, to take part in a peal of Grandsire Triples in honour of 1st Air Mechanic Gilbert H. Harding. The peal, however, was not completed, but nevertheless an enjoyable time was spent, and the following touches were rung: 336 Bob Major: H. Taylor 1, Miss E. Jones 2, W. Lancaster 3, W. Lawrence 4, C. J. Gardiner (conductor), Swindon, 5, T. King (Tiverton) 6, S. Hillier (Devizes) 7, S. Hector 8. 504 Grandsire Triples: S. Hector 1, H. Taylor 2, Miss E. Jones 3, T. King 4, C. Gardiner 5, S. Hillier 6, W. Lawrence (conductor) 7. C. Raison 8. 504 Stedman Triples, in 19 mins.: W. Lawrence 1, H. Taylor 2, W. Lancaster 3, C. Gardiner 4, C. Hector 5, S. Hillier 6, T. King (conductor) 7, C. Raison 8. The visitors expressed themselves as greatly pleased at the reception given to them.

DOUBLE NORWICH COMPOSITIONS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In reference to the 5184 Double Norwich Court Bob Major by Lance-Corpl. G. H. Cross, published in "The Ringing World" on August 18th, I fear this has already an owner. I composed this peal, course for course the same, in 1910, and sent it to a friend for inspection, and he told me it belonged to Mr. J. W. Washbrook, so I did not publish it, but booked it as one of his. The 5040 is an interesting variation of same. I am sorry to appear to be attempting to do one of our brave men out of anything, but I feel sure Mr. Cross does not wish to own it if it is already out.—Faithfully yours,

Worcester. W. PAGE.

HEROES FROM THE BELFRY.

SUSSEX RINGER KILLED.

We regret to record that Pte George Gibson, a member of the Cuckfield, Sussex, Parish Church company, who was serving with the 8th Royal Sussex Regiment (Pioneers) has been killed in France.

He was 24 years of age, and had been connected with the church and its bells practically all his life. He used to go up the belfry steps as a young lad with his father, who has been a ringer at Cuckfield for 30 years. He learned to pull as soon as he was old enough, and took such an interest that he was soon able to take part in

PTE GEORGE GIBSON,
8th Batt. Royal Sussex Regiment.

several quarter-peals. He rang his first peal only a few months before he was called up at the outbreak of war. Besides being a Territorial (Royal Sussex) he took a prominent part in football, and was a member of the brass band.

As a mark of respect a few of his ringing friends rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples with the bells muffled, on Sunday evening, September 10th, in his old tower: F. R. Hounsell 1, C. Stephenson 2, W. Wheeler 3, T. Gasson 4, A. Absalom 5, E. Davey 6, W. Vincent (conductor) 7, G. Woods 8. The ringers of 1, 2 and 8 are Cuckfield men, the rest belong to the neighbouring tower of Bolney.

D.C.M. FOR WOLVERLEY RINGER.

The Commander-in-Chief of H.M. Forces in France has awarded to Sergt. G. H. Head, of the Worcestershire Territorials, the D.C.M. Sergt. Head is a native of Wolverley, Worcestershire, where he was a ringer, and a member of the Worcestershire and Districts Association. He has been a member of the Territorials since he was 17 years of age, and was called up with them at the commencement of the war. He has been out in France for several months past, and is the first performing member of the Worcestershire Association to obtain this distinction in the field.

MILITARY MEDAL FOR WARWICKSHIRE RINGER.

The numerous friends of Pte R. Green, of the Allesley, Coventry, band, will be pleased to hear that he has been awarded the military medal for good work in France. He succeeded in establishing and maintaining a telephone post underneath Fritz's barbed wire, and also showed conspicuous pluck in carrying a wounded man back to his own trenches under heavy shell and machine gun fire.

Pte Green was one of the latest recruits of the Allesley band, quickly learning to ring a bell and to master the mysteries of change ringing. He had rung several peals of Doubles and Minor in various towers in the country, and the best wishes of his friends are accorded to him for his future success.

In May, 1914, he left Allesley to seek his fortune in America, and when war broke out later in the same year he joined the Canadians and came over with the second contingent. He is just 21 years old, and has been in France twelve months.

SUNBURY RINGER " MISSING."

Pte Edie Boultwood, of the Sunbury band, Middlesex, who has been serving in France with the Royal Fusiliers, is reported as missing, and the sympathy of the Exercise will go out to his parents and friends in their anxiety.

After being with his battery at the front for the last five months Bomb. Colin Harrison, of the Royal Field Artillery, and a member of the St. Marie's (R.C.) Ringers' Society, Sheffield, is, we regret to say, now a medical patient at the Lakenham Military Hospital, Norwich.

TO FILL THE RANKS.

A RURAL DEAN'S APPEAL TO CLERGY.

In view of the fact that ringing companies have been so very severely depleted through the call of men to the colours, the Rural Dean of Marlborough (the Rev. Arthur E. G. Peters), who is also chairman of the Marlborough Branch of the Salisbury Guild, has addressed the following appeal to the incumbents of all the parishes in the district covered by the branch where there are five bells and upwards.

St. Mary's Vicarage, Marlborough.
Sept. 12th, 1916.

Dear Sir,—At a recent meeting of the Diocesan Ringers' Guild (Marlborough and District Branch), I was asked to write to the Incumbents of parishes within the branch where there are peals of bells, on the subject of the effect of the war upon the art of ringing. A large proportion of the ringers are, of course, serving in the Forces, and there have already been many casualties among them. There is grave reason to fear that, unless steps are immediately taken, there will be a set-back in this beautiful art of campanology from which it may take a generation to recover. Moreover, when the joyful day arrives when peace is declared, it may be found difficult to celebrate the event in the time-honoured way from the steeples of our dear land. In some places the bells have been silenced since the war began, though it is somewhat difficult to see why the music of the bells within the tower should not remain on an equality with the music of the organ within the church.

The suggestion I am asked to make is that the training of youths of 15 to 17 years in the ringers' art should at once be put in hand, in order to preserve a beautiful and uplifting art which is in danger of becoming almost extinct, to the great detriment of the worship and service of the church.—Believe me, yours very truly,

ARTHUR E. G. PETERS,
Branch Chairman.

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT SUNBURY.

The South and West District of the Middlesex Association met at the Thames-side village of Sunbury on Saturday last, and between 30 and 40 members spent an enjoyable time. The meeting attracted ringers from a considerable number of towers, including Isleworth, Ealing, Sunbury, Old Windsor, Hersham, Camberwell, Southgate, Mitcham, Bromley, etc., and the melodious bells, set in the curiously designed tower, which is crowned by a look-out gallery, from which a magnificent view of the river is obtained, were utilised in the afternoon and evening in a variety of touches.

The ringers attended service, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. P. C. Vest), at which intercession prayers were used, in the course of which special mention was made of one of the local band, who is reported missing. In the course of a homely address, the Vicar spoke from the words, " A good soldier of Christ " (2 Timothy ii, 3), emphasing the part that ringers should fill by bearing themselves in all things in a manner befitting a man who wore the uniform of a 'soldier of Christ

Subsequently the Vicar hospitably entertained the visitors to tea in the Parish Room, and although the numbers present considerably exceeded expectations, the catering department readily expanded to meet the increased demands. Afterwards the Vicar extended a hearty welcome to the Association, and a business meeting was held. Mr. F. Pamphlett, of Sunbury, was elected a ringing member, and Mr. S. J. Hector, of Trowbridge, Wilts, was elected a life member. It was proposed to visit St. Peter's, Staines, for the next meeting, failing which Ealing was offered.

The Master (Mr. T. Beadle) proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for his kindness in allowing the use of the bells, in providing the tea and for presiding.—The motion, needless to say, was received with acclamation. Subsequently some of the ringers returned to the tower, while others rang Grandsire Triples and Caters and Bob Major on handbells.

SHEFFIELD CATHEDRAL BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—There is a slight error in the account of Sheffield St. Peter's bells, as it appears in " The Ringing World " to-day. It should read " Fifth and Eleventh—as on the third, but dated 1804." The mistake arose from transposing the third and fourth inscriptions to make them in right order according to Mr. Thomas' correction of my account of twelve-bell towers.—Yours faithfully,

Sept. 8th. J. R. JERRAM.

RINGERS' HYMN.

Copies of the new hymn, specially written for ringers by the Master of the Winchester Guild (the Rev. C. E. Matthews) can now be obtained from " The Ringing World" Office, price 2s. 6d. per 100.

BELLS AND THE PUBLIC.

"TOMMY" GLAD TO HEAR THE BELLS.

A British soldier has given the best answer to those who have written to the "Daily Mail" suggesting that the ringing of bells should be stopped so that they may not be an annoyance to the wounded. "A Mons Veteran," writing in the issue of the great London daily, says:—

> Sir,—Perhaps those who write complaining of church bells do not think that many a British "Tommy" is glad to be home here in England listening to them after hearing so much of the firing at the front. Here where I am now one hardly ever hears anything, and I think it would be good to hear a church bell. I thank my lucky soul that I am in England to have the chance to hear the church bells ringing on a Sabbath morn, after twenty-three months in France with the "B.E.F."

PREVENTION OF ANNOYANCE FROM BELLS.

Dear Sir,—In your issue of Sept. 8th you publish letters, also a leading article on church bells being a nuisance. My experience with various people as to the annoyance of church bells is that their grievance is very real, and not at all due to vindictiveness or desire to interfere with other people's pursuits. They are, as a rule, of very highly strung nervous temperament, and the least undue noise, especially the rythmic beat of bells, sets their nerves on the tingle, giving them positive agony during the time ringing is in progress. I know a case where a shopkeeper is almost unable to correctly count the change when a customer comes to make a purchase. The great difficulty with these people is that they seem to think it absolutely necessary for them to reside as near as they can to a church tower. They do not realise it is impossible to have the tower removed for their convenience.

In many towers I have visited the ringers themselves have done their level best to mitigate the evil, and personally I think it will have to be the ringers themselves who must save the situation, for the perfect tower does not yet seem to exist. The great difficulty appears to be the louvres, which turn the sound downwards, when in reality it ought to go upwards.

There is a very good arrangement at the Parish Church, Ripley, Derbyshire, where the ringers can close up the louvres and open up a trap-door in the roof. Perhaps our friend, Mr. Harry George, will give us full particulars. The ringers at St. Paul's Church, Burton-on-Trent, have an excellent idea for taking away the harsh clang when the clapper strikes the bell; they have strained some Brattice cloth on wood stretchers covering the whole aperture to meet the trouble. Mr. Wakley told me it was a great success, the effect being as if the bells were some distance away; but will one of the Burton ringers kindly give us the exact details, and say if any preservative has been applied to the cloth to make it weather proof?

I believe another case occurred at St. Nicholas' Church, Leicester, where the ringers themselves built up part, or the whole of one side, to prevent the bells being a nuisance to the business people in the neighbourhood who made complaints. The full details I am unable to furnish, but perhaps Mr. Willson will kindly oblige.

Then again, do ringers pay sufficient attention when sickness occurs near enough to the tower to warrant the bells being silent? In our own case we try to meet every reasonable request, and consequently have very few.

When the Leek bells were rehung, I persuaded the authorities to build up the louvres inside, to the height of the bell frame, and above that, to put wood shutters which can be operated from the belfry, leaving open only the tracery, but this only partly meets the case.

The unsuitability of many towers for ringing purposes, especially those in populous districts, will undoubtedly always give trouble, and I firmly believe it will have to be the ringers themselves who must meet the difficulty. It is with the object of getting those views placed before the Exercise at large, where the greatest success has been achieved, that I have been persuaded to write this letter, and hope those who can, will supply particulars of whatever success they have obtained in this direction, so that those towers which come under the lash of the legitimate, and also the chronic grumbler, may have the best ideas obtainable to meet the situation, and we can follow our favourite pastime without molestation or being a nuisance to anybody.

—Yours, etc.,
E. A. RIDGWAY.

Leek, Staffs.

SHALL WE MUFFLE OUR BELLS?

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Doubtless many of your readers have perused the different letters appearing of late in the daily Press on church bells. A good many of these letters are not dictated against bell ringing proper, but the continuous clanging of single bells throughout the Sabbath, which has already been admirably dealt with in the columns of your paper. Some letters have some bearing upon lengthy touches in full peal, but I am glad to be able to observe from many issues that our wounded soldiers do not advocate the entire suppression of bell ringing, but rather welcome the familiar sounds of bell music, from which they derive a large measure of comfort that they are again in happy old England, a complete contrast to the continuous dinning of heavy guns.

Some time ago you published a letter from me suggesting the adoption of muffles, and that they remain on until after the crisis, which we are passing through. I was sorry to note in reply to same some vitrolic criticism at the hands of the Rev. H. Law James, and other sources, including Bob Major (a useful contributor, by-the-way), etc. When my letter was in print it was apparent it was somewhat in advance of the times. The purport of it was that those who are in authority amongst us should give a lead in order to prevent dictation at the hands of outsiders, who, according to the criticism going on, are making their presence felt. The suggestion of mine may have been distasteful to many, but we are labouring in distasteful times, and may have to bow to the inevitable, whatever may be the desire to the contrary. My feeling in the matter was that ringing should not stop entirely, but that we should "carry on" as far as possible for the benefit of novices, who might be capable of filling places in the bell chamber. It is now left to outsiders to bring pressure and put the screw into operation, by suggesting that bells be deeply muffled—to which I am already converted for obvious reasons.

It was very strange that I should have been within hearing of a remark in reference to an application for some bells for a peal. It was something like this: "Yes, with pleasure, but on the understanding that no joy peal is rung. It will be a condition that they are muffled." Here you have it in a nutshell. The attempt for a peal was not made for some unexplained reasons. If outsiders have no objection to listening to muffled ringing, why should ringers? Ringers are not making use of bells in a worldly sense. They have stopped, for what reason. Surely it is not wise to cut off ringing entirely? There are imperative and obvious reasons that ringing should go on in accordance with decency and judgment, in a subdued sense. If we continue to ring bells open during the period of war, the contrast will be infinitesimal when peace dawns. In conclusion, I should like to prevail upon the wisdom of those who are above us, not to steer us into the disaster of entire suppression. It looks very much like the bulb bursting.

H.

RINGERS' OUTINGS.

A very pleasant and enjoyable time was spent on Saturday week, when the Stoke-in-Coventry Society paid a visit to Southam for their outing. Several ringing friends from Allesley were kindly invited, and all met together at Coventry Station, and proceeded to Southam by train. The afternoon was a glorious one, and the distant views that were to be seen en route were much admired. On their arrival the visitors sat down to a meat tea, which had been provided by Host Hughes, and, to judge by the quick disappearance of the good fare provided, the party appeared to be in good form with the knife and fork, several "courses" being quickly got through. After the inner man had been appeased, a move was made to the belfry, and the bells set going to the tune of Stedman Triples. Touches in various methods were rung till dusk, some of the local men standing in to Grandsire Triples. This is the first time that the eight have been rung this year, as the Southam band, like most others, have had their ranks depleted by the country's call, eight men having joined, and Grandsire Doubles is all that they are able to ring at present. Thanks are due to the Rector (the Rev. J. Hart-Davies) for the use of the bells, and to Mr. Berry for having everything in readiness, and also to Host Hughes for the able way in which he looked after the wants of the visitors, everyone being pleased at the success of the outing.

LEYTONSTONE SOCIETY AT SHENFIELD.

The annual two days' outing of the Leytonstone company being abandoned again this year, a half-day was decided on, and a pleasant time was spent by a dozen members on Saturday week, when they visited the pretty village of Shenfield, Essex, where the Rector had kindly placed his peal of six bells at their disposal. The bells, hanging in a tower built entirely of wood, were soon raised, and a good 720 Cambridge Surprise was rung by: W. Doran 1, W. Theobald 2, A. Prior 3, W. Miller 4, G. Dawson (conductor) 5, H. Torble 6. This was the 100th 720 of Cambridge Surprise by the ringer of the 5th. Miss Brown, of the local band, joined the party, and rang the 3rd to several courses of Grandsire, and was complimented on the way she handled her bell. A 720 London Surprise, containing 21 bobs, followed, by: W. Theobald 1, E. J. Butler 2, A. Prior 3, W. Miller (conductor) 4, G. A. Black 5, R. Sanders 6. Touches of Stedman Doubles, Lincoln and York Surprise, in which Mr. G. T. Clayton and Mr. W. Riches took part, concluded the day's ringing. A walk across the fields brought the party to Ye Old Green Dragon, where a splendid meat tea had been prepared, and, needless to say, ample justice was done. This over, tracks were made for the station, everybody having spent a very enjoyable afternoon. The ringers wish, through "The Ringing World," to tender their very best thanks to the Rector of Shenfield (the Rev. G. N. Gresley) for granting us the use of his bells.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

NUNEATON.—On Sunday, July 23rd, at the Parish Church, for morning service, a touch each of Stedman Triples and Double Norwich. For evening service, a course each of Cambridge and Superlative Surprise, and a touch of Stedman Triples.—On Monday evening, July 24th, touches of Grandsire, Stedman and Double Norwich. These touches were rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mr. William A. Baker, who was interred on July 24th, and who was for 15 years churchwarden, an enthusiastic church worker, and a true friend to the ringers. The following members of the Nuneaton society and visitors took part: H. Argyle, D. Argyle, A. R. Aldham, J. Clarke, T. W. Chapman, F. Dexter, C. Briggs, W. Martin, R. Pollard, J. Greasley, —. Wilkinson, F. Webb and J. Ballard.

COTGRAVE, NOTTS.—On August 13th, for evening service, and as a welcome to the Rector (the Rev. J. P. Hales) home from the front, 720 Bob Minor: S. N. Simpson 1, W. E. White 2, W. White (conductor) 3, Sapper G. H. Simpson, R.E., 4, W. Clarke 5, T. Squires 6. Sapper G. H. Simpson was home on leave after having been wounded in France.

EWELL, SURREY.—On Sunday, August 13th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins.: W. Worsfold 1, H. Beams 2, Jesse Beams 3, John Beams (conductor) 4, E. Grove 5, H. Greenhill 6, C. Read 7, F. Lauer 8. Rung as a farewell touch to Jesse Beams, previous to his joining H.M. Forces.

BARNES.—On August 13th, for evening service, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins.: J. Willmott 1, M. Jacobs 2, W. H. Stevens 3, H. Barrett 4, H. Cook (conductor) 5, R. Mackrill 6, C. Hunt 7, G. Hunt 8.

WESTBURY-ON-TRYM.—Glos. and Bristol Association.—On Saturday, August 19th, 720 Plain Bob Minor: A. E. Wilkins 1, *W. White 2, *Cadet Alec Miller 3, R. J. Wilkins (conductor) 4, J. Gould 5, G. Wiltshire 6. * First 720.

MARSHFIELD, MON. — Llandaff Association.—At St. Mary's Church, on August 19th, after an attempt for a peal of Grandsire Triples,— a quarter-peal (1260 changes) was rung by S. Dawe 1, A. Rowley 2, J. W. Jones 3, T. Redman 4, F. Chamberlain 5, F. Edwards 6, Wm. Bolton (conductor) 7, B. Weaver 8. The band wished the conductor "Many happy returns" of his natal day.

BARNES.—On August 20th, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 42 mins.: J. Willmott 1, H. Barrett 2, M. Jacobs 3, P. H. Smith 4, H. Cook 5, Staff-Sergt. A. T. Verralls 6, C. Hunt (conductor) 7, G. Hunt 8.—On August 27th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins.: J. Willmott 1, H. Barrett 2, W. H. Stevens 3, M. Jacobs 4, R. Mackrill 5, C. Hunt (conductor) 6, H. Cook 7, G Hunt 8.

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.—On Sunday, August 20th, for Matins, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: F. Morgan 1, W. Hoad 2, C. Tribe 3, C. W. Player 4, A. E. Edwards 5, W. H. Perry 6, R. J. Dawe (conductor) 7, T. Booth 8. For evensong, a quarter-peal, in 46 mins.: J. Goodsell 1, A. C. Edwards 2, W. Hoad 3, C. Tribe 4, T. Booth 5, W. H. Perry 6, C. W. Player (conductor) 7, E. Mills 8.

KELSALE, SUFFOLK —For evening service, on August 20th, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major: F. Watling 1, A. J. Lincoln 2, Second-Lieut. G. C. Haggar 3, W. Drew (conductor) 4, H. Phillips 5, N. R. Bailey 6, J. W. Avis 7, F. J. Smith 8. Also a course of Double Norwich Major: W. Fleming 1, J. W. Avis 2, N. R. Bailey 3, W. Drew 4, H. Phillips 5, F. J. Smith 6, A. J. Lincoln 7, F. Watling 8.

STANSTED, ESSEX. — On Sunday, August 20th, at the Parish Church, for morning service, 360 Bob Minor, and for evening service, 720 Bob Minor: W. W. Watts 1, G. Gray 2, W. E. Carr 3, H. W. Watts 4, W. Watts (conductor) 5, T. J. Watts 6.

PETERBOROUGH. — For evening service, on August 20th, at St John's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: V. Butler 1, S. Wright 2, F. Dainty 3, W. Jarvis 4, T. Vaughan 5, F. Cooke 6, T. Tebbitt (conductor) 7, T. Howling 8.

ALDERSHOT.—On August 22nd, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: F. Croucher 1, L. N. Griffith (R.F.C.) 2, C. Edwards 3, B. Hammond 4, J. Mann 5, J. Thomas (R.F.C.), Edmorton, 6.

CREWE. — Chester Guild.—At Christ Church, on Sunday, August 20th, for evening service, 1260 Grandsire Caters, in 50 mins.: W. T. Holding 1, H. Overton (first quarter-peal of Caters) 2, R. Langford 3, G. H. Crawley 4, A. Crawley 5, H. F. Holding (R.A.M.C.) 6, G. Harding 7, R. D. Langford 8, R. T. Holding (conductor) 9, J. Dentith 10. Also 503 Grandsire Caters, for morning service, with William Edge on the tenor, R. D. Langford standing down. The above ringing was arranged to oblige Pte H. F. Holding, who was over on furlough.

SEDGLEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.—On Sunday, August 20th, at All Saints' Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 41 mins.: J. Ray 1, A. Abbiss 2, W. Mills, junr., 3, F. Evans 4, H. Jerrons 5, Jesse Screen (conductor) 6, W. Mills, senr., 7, Benjamin Fullwood 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to J. Screen.

WOLVERLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, August 20th, for evening service, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins.: J. Dowler 1, T. J. Salter 2, F. W. Perrens 3, A. E. Parsons 4, S. Grove 5, W. Short (conductor) 6.

WEDDING BELLS.

On the occasion of the marriage on Saturday, Sept. 2nd, of Sergt. S. King, one of the local band at St. Mary's, Bletchley, Bucks, and Miss Mabel French, second daughter of Mr. James French, churchwarden of St. Mary's, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 47 mins.; and 336 after the wedding, by the following: T. Best 1, W. Mead 2, J. Mead 3, H. Morris 4, H. Sear (conductor) 5, E. Lathel 6, E. C. Lambert 7, W. Smith 8. The ringers were entertained to the luncheon, and joined in wishing the bride and bridegroom every happiness.

At Swanmore, Hants, on Wednesday afternoon, Sept. 6th, at the Parish Church of St. Barnabas, on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. Oswold Bailey, of Wickham, and Miss Hilda Margaret Martin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. Martin, of Swanmore, very old respected residents; the local ringers, with a few friends, including the hon. gen. sec. of the Winchester Guild (Mr. G. Williams) kept the bells going to various methods till dusk, Grandsire and Stedman Doubles being rung, and a 720 Bob Minor by F. Merritt (first 720) 1, G. Williams (conductor) 2, Roy Linter 3, Alf. Mears 4, W. Harris 5, W. Linter, senr., 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob: Roy Linter 1, G. Williams (conductor) 2, W. Linter 3, W. Harris 4, A. Millard 5, Alf. Mears 6. R. Silvester, of the local band, and W. Pook, Curdridge also took part in a number of shorter touches.

DEATH OF AN OLD GLEMSFORD RINGER.

SUFFOLK WORTHY'S INTERESTING CAREER.

It is with regret that the death has to be recorded of Thomas Oliver Garwood, which took place at his residence at Glemsford on Tuesday of last week. He was in the 67th years of his age. Born on May 27th, 1850, deceased went to work at an early age, and soon came in contact with Samuel, John and Zachariah Slater. Samuel taught him to read, write and the four rules of arithmetic, and in return Oliver learnt to ring. He proved an apt pupil, soon mastering the art, and making himself proficient.

He was very good at handling a heavy bell, and the late Samuel Slater always used to get his pupils to watch him handle a rope. He rang in most of the best performances of the Glemsford Society, including the only two peals of London Surprise that the Society rang, which was in 1883. He also rang in the peal of seven different methods at Glemsford by all mat weavers. Out of Glemsford he rang in the 7008 of Kent Treble Bob Major at Long Melford, and 10,176 Kent Treble Bob Major at Foxearth, and the first and only peal of Double Norwich at the latter place. He also rang in the 6048 Kent Treble Bob at Lavenham. He rang Clare tenor to a peal of Kent Treble Bob in 1901. This was his last peal, and at the conclusion a gentleman gave him some money to ask his comrades to drink, so pleased was he with the performance.

It is rather remarkable that Thomas Oliver, Fred Wells and the late Samuel Slater should ring 50 peals together in their days. The deceased was also a proficient ringer in about 30 Minor methods, and had a favourite plan of calling a lot of short touches right off when on the tenor-box, on which no better man ever stood to ring what he knew. He was a man of very fine build, and in addition to belonging to the Norwich Association, was a member of the Royal Cumberland Youths. He represented his fellow workmen on the Ipswich Trades Council for several years. He was a most honest, kind, upright man, and he was liked by all who knew him.

He leaves an aged mother, a widow and five grown-up children to mourn the loss of a good husband and father. May he rest in peace.

LATE NOTICES.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Maidstone District.—The half-yearly meeting of the Maidstone District will be held at Wrotham on Saturday, October 7th. The bells will be available for ringing from 3 to 8 o'clock. A short service will be held at 5 p.m. Tea, provided by the Rector, at 5.45. Business meeting after. Will all members of the Association intending to be present let the secretary know not later than Monday, October 2nd.—Stephen Hazleden, Lower Street, East Farleigh, Hon. Secretary.

CHANGE OF ADDRESSES. — The address of Mr. James George, Master of the Warwickshire Guild, is now 42, Stirling Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham. Will secretaries of associations and others kindly note.—Mr. T. K. Driver, secretary of the Rochdale Branch of the Lancs Association has removed to 132, Morton Street, Middleton, Lancs.

NOTICES.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting and eight-bell contest will be held at Calverley on Saturday, Sept. 23rd. Tenor 11 cwt. Draw for order of ringing at 3 p m. in the school.—F. Salmons, Sec., 8, Salisbury Place, Halifax.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Rochester District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Rochester on Saturday, September 23rd, 1916. The Cathedral bells will be available from 3 p.m. Service in Cathedral at 4 p.m. Tea at 6 p.m. at "Tea Table" Cafe, High Street, opposite the Cathedral, for which 6d. per member will be charged.—Edward A. G. Allen, Hon. Secretary, 77, Bill Street Road, Frindsbury, Rochester.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — The next quarterly meeting will be held at Chesterfield on Saturday, September 23rd. Committee meeting 4.30. General meeting 5 o'clock, both in Church Vestry. Ringing from 3 to 7.30, except during the time of meeting. Tea at Mander's Cafe, a la carte—W. E. White, Hon. Secretary.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—The Quarterly Meeting will be held at Coseley, on Saturday, September 23rd. Bells available at 3; Service in Church at 5.15, with an address by the Rev. L. J. Lamplugh, B.A.; tea (1/-) in the Schoolroom at 6. Reports are ready.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—Quarterly meeting at Everton on Saturday, Sept. 23rd. Tea provided at at 5 p.m., 1/3 per head to ringers and friends.—H. Haigh, A. Beck, Joint Secretaries.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the North-Western Division, for the election of officers, will be held at Bishop's Stortford on Saturday, September 23rd. Bells available from 3 till 6.30 p.m. Short service at 5 p.m. Tea 9d. each at the Chequers Hotel, 6.30 p.m., followed by business meeting.—William Watts, District Secretary, Mont House Cottage, Stansted, Essex.

WORCESTER AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—A general practice is arranged at All Saints', Worcester (10 bells) on Saturday, September 23rd, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. All are welcome.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at S. Mary's, Kidderminster, on Saturday, September 23rd. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service in the Church at 5.30. Tea at 6 o'clock, kindly provided by the Vicar, Rev. Canon L. B. Sladen. The election of officers for this branch takes place at this meeting. Reports can be had on application to the Secretary, E. J. Dowler, 11, Edward Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Chester Square, Ashton-under-Lyne, on Saturday, September 23rd. Bells available from 3 p.m. till dusk; meeting at 7.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bridgwater Deanery Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Wembdon on Saturday, September 23rd. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow, 5 p.m. The bells of St. Mary's, Bridgwater, will be available from 6 p.m.—A. E. Moulton, Hon. Secretary.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—A special meeting will be held at St. Mary's Church, Barnsley, on Saturday, Sept. 30th. Tower open, 3.30—7.30, and 8—9 p.m. All ringers invited.—C. D. Potter, Secretary, 119, Doncaster Road, Barnsley.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Ilminster on Saturday, September 30th. Meeting in the Vestry at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Service at 6 p.m.—E. E. Burgess, Hon. Sec., 62, Greenway Avenue, Taunton.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.—The bells of St. Mary's Church, Beddington, will be opened for ringing on Saturday, September 30th, at 3.30 p.m., instead of on October 7th.—Alfred Clayton, 5, Highland Cottages, Bute Road, Wallington.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION. — Northampton District. — The quarterly meeting will be held at Harlestone, on Saturday, September 30th. Bells ready at 3 p.m., service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—T. Law, District Secretary, St. Peter's Cottages, Weston Favell.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Chigwell Row on Saturday, September 30th. Bells available from 3 p.m. — E. J. Butler, Chadwell Heath.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Broxbourne on September 30th. Further particulars next week.—W. H. Lawrence, Little Munden.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — The annual meeting will be held at Chorley on Saturday, September 30th. Permission has been granted for the use of the following towers: Chorley, St. Lawrence (8 bells); Whittle-le-Woods, St. John (8); Coppull, St. John (6). Ringing all day up to service time. 4 p.m.—Service at St. Lawrence, Chorley. Preacher: The Ven. Archdeacon Howson, M.A., Rector of Woolton. 5 p.m.—Tea in the Church Institute, price 1s. 3d. Will intending visitors kindly inform Mr. T. Lofthouse, 3, Mayfield Road, Chorley, before September 27th. 6 p.m.—Meeting in the same room.—W. H. Shuker and J. H. Banks, Honorary Secretaries.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Pentre, Ystrad, Rhondda Valley, Glamorganshire, on Saturday, September 30th. Bells (8) available from 2.30, meeting at 4.45.—Rev. Connop L. Price, M.A., J. W. Jones, 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon., Hon. Secs.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD. — North and East District.—A meeting will be held at St. Stephen's Church, Coleman Street, E.C., by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. J. Jessop Teague), on Saturday, September 30th. Bells available from 4 to 7 sharp. Business meeting to follow. All members and friends cordially invited.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 49, Wood Street, Walthamstow.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY. — The next meeting will be held at Christ Church, Dore (8 bells), on Saturday, September 30th. Bells available from 3 p.m. A good attendance is desired. Will members please note alteration in date?—Sam Thomas, Hon. Secretary, 19, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Chilvers Coton on Saturday, September 30th. Bells available from 3 p.m. till dusk. Business meeting afterwards. Short service at 5. — H. Kettle, Allesley, Coventry.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.—Established 1755.—Quarterly meeting will be held at the Cathedral (St. Phillip's), Birmingham, on Saturday, Sept. 30th. Bells (10) available from 4 o'clock. Business meeting in the belfry at 5.30.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The next meeting will be held at Dewsbury, on Saturday, September 30th. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m. The ring of 6 at Batley Carr will also be available. Tea in schools at 5 p.m. to all giving notice to Mr. E. A. Parker, 41, Caulms Terrace, Crackenedge, Dewsbury, not later than Tuesday, 26th inst. All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cooper, Hon. District Secretary.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Sawston (1½ miles from Whittlesford Station, G.E.R.) on Saturday, October 7th. Bells (eight) available from one o'clock. — A. E. Austin, Acting General Secretary, 4, Hills View, Great Shelford, Cambs.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Headcorn, on Saturday, October 7th. Bells available at 2 o'clock. A special service will be held in the Church at 6 o'clock. Tea provided by the Association at 6.30 for all members who notify me of their intention to be present on or before Tuesday, October 3rd. A general meeting will be held after tea for the election of officers, etc., for the ensuing year. — C. Tribe, Hon. District Secretary, British School Villas, Tenterden.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—The annual district meeting for the election of officers will be held at Great Bentley on October 7th. Those who intend to be present please notify Mr. W. J. Nevard, Great Bentley, who will kindly provide tea to all sending him notice not later than October 4th. I shall be glad to receive outstanding subscriptions for 1916.—B. Redgwell, Hon. District Secretary, The Street, Rayne.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, October 7th, at Whitworth Parish Church. Bells ready at 3 o'clock, meeting at 6.30.—T. K. Driver, 132, Morton Street, Middleton, Lancs.

ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS. — Quarterly meeting on October 14th at Shoreditch. Tower open 2.30. Tea to those who notify me by October 10th.—H. J. Bradley, 25, Winchester Avenue, Brondesbury.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The proposed Sept. general meeting at Ilkley in connection with the William Snowdon Memorial is postponed on account of difficulty in obtaining the metal for the tablet. Members will be notified in due course when arrangements are complete.—Clement Glenn, Hon. General Secretary.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

SITUATION VACANT.

WORKING FOREMAN BELL MOULDER required.—Apply "Founder," Ringing World Office, Woking.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

RINGERS and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House,

Llewellins & James, Ltd.,

CHURCH BELLS SINGLY OR IN RINGS.

Bell Frames in Cast Iron, Steel and Oak.

Bells tuned on the latest improved principles initiated by the late Canon Simpson.

CASTLE GREEN,

BRISTOL.

JAMES BARWELL,

LIMITED,

Church Bell Founders

— AND —

Church Bell Hangers,

GREAT HAMPTON STREET,

BIRMINGHAM.

Towers and Campaniles Inspected and Estimates Furnished to cover every Expense.

Musical Handbells, in any size and number, for Tune or Change-ringing, in Guaranteed Quality.

The Jasper Snowdon Series.

ROPE-SIGHT. 1s. 6d.; sixth ed. 150 pages; treats Plain Bob, commencing on three bells.

GRANDSIRE. 2s. 6d.; second ed.; 264 pages; commencing on five bells; complete with the Thompson Charts, etc., etc.

STANDARD METHODS. 6th Edition Now Ready.

STEDMAN. 2s. 6d.; 275 pages, by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, M.A., with an appendix by Sir Arthur Heywood, Bart., etc., etc.

TREBLE BOB. Part I. 1s. 6d.; second ed.; with appendix; 100 closely printed pages. Part II., suited for Conductors only; very scarce; 2s. 1½d.; 236 pages.

DOUBLE NORWICH C. B. Major. At present out of print.

SURPRISE PEALS. Cambridge, Superlative and London; compiling.

All post free, on receipt of postal order, from

Mrs. LAURA SNOWDON, Cartmel, Lancashire.

ALFRED BOWELL,

CHURCH BELL FOUNDER,

IPSWICH.

JOHN SMITH & SONS

Midland Clock Works,

DERBY

Telegraphic Address—
"Clocks, Derby."
Tel. No. 569

CHURCH & PUBLIC CLOCKS

MAKERS OF CLOCKS AND CHIMES for S. Paul's Cathedral Boverley Minster, Selby Abbey, Truro Cathedral, Thurles Cathedral, Trinity College, Cambridge, Belfast Assembly Hall, Magdalen College, Oxford, and many others to Lord Grimthorpe's designs. In 1897, writing to the Vicar of Minchinhampton, Lord Grimthorpe said:—"Smith of Derby will clock you in the best way and as near eternity as possible."

When the "Joy Bells" ring.

JOHN PRITCHARD

desires to advise all patrons and new friends that owing to the anticipated enormous demands for Church Bell and Chiming Ropes upon the declaration of peace, it will be necessary for them to place their enquiries immediately to ensure prompt service and delivery.

Maker of Ropes for World's Record Peal,

LOUGHBOROUGH.

Price List on application. Established 100 years.

UNIQUE FOR PRESENTATION.

An Inkstand in the design of a Well-shaped Bell

This charming model in Solid Hall Marked Silver will make a most appropriate and useful Gift.

It can be supplied in the following sizes:—

Diameter	2½in.	2¾in.	3¼in.	3½in.	4in.	4½in.	5in.
Price ...	10/6	16/-	21/-	26/6	32/6	42/-	55/-

Monogram or Inscriptions Engraved at Moderate Charges.

J. COMBER, Goldsmith and Silversmith,

WOKING

(MAKER OF THE RINGERS' BADGE.)

THOMAS DOBLE & SON, Church Bell-Hangers, TAUNTON.—Bells Hung on the most approved principles. Old Bells Re-cast, New Bells supplied, Ropes of the best make. Ellacombe's Chiming Apparatus fixed, Handbells in sets, Chromatic or Diatonic.

THE BADGE OF THE CRAFT

A Beautifully Executed

RINGERS' PENDANT

in Gold, Silver or Bronze.
Specially Suitable for Gifts.

Prices, Gold (9 carat) 21/-, Silver 4/6
Bronze 2/9 (post free).

J. COMBER, Goldsmith and Jeweller,

TELEPHONE: 171 WOKING. WOKING

Printed for the Proprietors by the WOODBRIDGE PRESS, LTD., Guildford, and Published by Messrs. WM. DAWSON & SONS LTD., Cannon House, Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.